

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Yukitoshi KATO) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: November 27, 2001)
For: Instrument for Extroverting Blood ...)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, kindly enter the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace Claim 18, and add new Claim 19, as follows:

-- 18. (Amended) A set of a blood vessel extroverting instrument according to claim 2 and a clip ring capable of being fitted around a blood vessel.

-- 19. (New) A set of a blood vessel extroverting instrument according to claim 11 and a clip ring capable of being fitted around a blood vessel. --

REMARKS

No new matter has been introduced.

The wording in Claim 18 has also been amended to avoid multiple dependency.

New Claim 19 is also presented for consideration.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000. A marked-up version of Claim 18 indicating the change is enclosed with this Preliminary Amendment.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 27, 2001

18. (Amended) A set of a blood vessel extroverting instrument according to claim 2 [or 11] and a clip ring capable of being fitted around a blood vessel.